

1. Early Postsecondary Education Opportunities in Maine

In September, Governor Paul LePage announced the creation of a task force that will make recommendations on expanding early college and other post-secondary education opportunities for students while they are still in high school.

The task force is charged with reporting back to the Governor and Legislature by December 1. To support the work of the task force, the Department is surveying public and private high schools to see what early post-secondary opportunities are currently in place for students and to learn more about them.

This survey is aimed at high school guidance counselors and principals, or other appropriate administrators most familiar with early college opportunities at your school.

Considerable research has already been done in this area by the Mitchell Institute. With this survey, we are interested in learning about which programs are in use, how schools promote participation in them, and what barriers exist that stand in the way of more students taking advantage of these opportunities.

Thank you for your assistance! The survey is 40 questions long.

*1. Who is filling out this survey?

We might wish to contact you to learn more about your early post-secondary programs. If you'd be willing, please share you contact info, too.

| | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Name: | <input type="text"/> |
| Position/Role: | <input type="text"/> |
| District: | <input type="text"/> |
| High School: | <input type="text"/> |
| Email Address: | <input type="text"/> |

2. PARTICIPATION

2. Typically, what type of student participates in early college programs at your school?

Select all that apply

- ☐ Students likely to pursue a 4-year college degree
- ☐ Students likely to pursue a 2-year college degree
- ☐ Students likely to pursue some type of industry credential or certificate
- ☐ Students not planning to go to college or other post-secondary education
- ☐ Non-traditional students
- ☐ Unknown

Comment

3. Which of the following early post-secondary education opportunities are offered through your high school? *Select all that apply*

- ☐ College for Me
- ☐ Aspirations
- ☐ AP4All
- ☐ Other(s) (please specify)

4. During 2010-11 how many students participated in these programs?

3. PARTICIPATION

5. For this program, where did these students receive credit?

- ☐ High school credit only
- ☐ Post-secondary credit only
- ☐ High school and post-secondary credit

Comment

6. For this program, where were the courses taught? *Select all that apply*

- ☐ At a post-secondary institution
- ☐ At the high school
- ☐ Online or through distance-learning
- ☐ Combination (please explain below)

Comment

7. Who at your high school coordinates early post-secondary education opportunities?

- ☐ Guidance counselor
- ☐ Principal
- ☐ Other (please specify)

4. PARTICIPATION (continued)

8. Please name the post-secondary institution or institutions participating in programs with your high school.

9. Do you have information - data or anecdotal - that shows taking early post-secondary courses has encouraged your students to pursue a post-secondary education they might not have otherwise pursued?

- ☐ Yes, it encouraged them
- ☐ Made no difference
- ☐ It discouraged them
- ☐ Don't know - insufficient data/information
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Comment

5. PROMOTING EARLY POST-SECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES (continued)

10. Do you think most students see the post-secondary offerings at/through your school as an option they should consider?

- ☐ Yes, definitely; most do
- ☐ Some do; many have heard of them, but some are not fully aware of what they are or are hesitant
- ☐ A few; it's seen as something for "other" kids
- ☐ Hardly any; most don't know about the programs

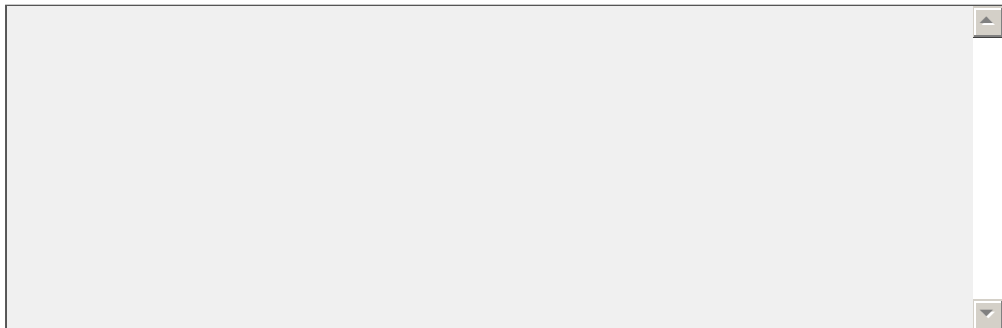
11. Does the high school provide additional supports/assistance for students taking early post-secondary courses?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Other (please specify)

6. PROMOTING EARLY POST-SECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES

12. Please describe in what ways your school promotes early post-secondary education opportunities to your students. Provide as much detail as you can: who is involved in promoting; what tools are used; which students are encouraged to participate; etc.

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13. What percentage of students at your school would you say are aware of the post-secondary opportunities available to them?

- ☐ 90-100 percent
- ☐ 75-90 percent
- ☐ 50-75 percent
- ☐ 25-50 percent
- ☐ 0-25 percent

7. REQUIREMENTS AND BARRIERS

14. Does the high school review and approve early college courses a student is allowed to take?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Comment

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15. If so, is alignment with the standards and/or curriculum a part of that review?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Please explain

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8. REQUIREMENTS AND BARRIERS

16. What were the academic eligibility requirements *Select all that apply*

- ☐ Minimum GPA
- ☐ Minimum score on standardized test, such as the SAT
- ☐ Minimum class rank
- ☐ Passing a college placement test
- ☐ Other
- ☐ None

Comment

17. Does the high school have policies in place governing participation in early college, e.g., maximum number of courses, etc.?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please describe

9. REQUIREMENTS AND BARRIERS

18. How much of a barrier does each of the following present to increasing enrollments at your school in early post-secondary programs? Please rate each from 1 to 4, with 4 representing the greatest barrier.

| | 1 (No barrier) | 2 | 3 | 4 (Significant barrier) |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Cost to students | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Cost to the school/district | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Access to courses | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Quality of courses | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Interest of students | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Interest of families | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Interest of educators in promoting the program | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Transportation and busing | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Scheduling | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Staff/capacity to coordinate | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Comment

19. Please describe these or additional barriers you see to more students participating in post-secondary education opportunities at/through your school.

20. How important would each of the following be in increasing student access to early post-secondary programs at your school? Please rate each from 1 to 4, with 1 representing "not at all important" and 4 representing "very important."

| | 1 (Not at all important) | 2 | 3 | 4 (Very important) |
|---|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Hold the courses on the high school campus | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Financial aid for students | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Funding support for the school | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| More opportunities for training high school teachers (dual credentials) | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Greater transferability of credit/dual credit | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

Please describe ways to increase participation/remove barriers

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

21. What do you see as the strengths of the existing early post-secondary programs at your school or in general?

22. What do you see as challenges, or needing improvement?

23. Please use this space for any additional comments or suggestions or to describe other aspects of your early post-secondary opportunities for high school students .

11. Thank You for Completing this survey

See www.maine.gov/education/earlycollege for information about the Governor's Task Force on Early Post-Secondary Education Opportunities.